

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 22 and ending on page 11, line 3 with the following paragraph:

Referring back to FIG. 6, the box **40** preferably comprises a means for air outlet **48** (e.g., an air exhaust port) and a means for air inlet **46** (e.g., an air inlet port). The exhaust port **48** is located at either the front or the exterior front side of battery box **40**. As shown in FIGS. **5b** or **5d**, when the external mounting configuration is used, exhaust port **48** is located at the lower portion of box **40**. When the internal mounting configuration is used (FIGS. **5a**, **5c**), moreover, exhaust port **48** is located at the upper portion of box **40**. In either configuration, inlet port **48** is preferably located on the rear side (i.e., the side closest to the stern of the watercraft) or the rear interior side of box **40**. Locating the air inlet port **48** at the rear of box **40** and the exhaust port **46** at the front of box **40** takes advantage of the convection currents existing within box **40**, especially when the craft possesses an aft orientation. Typically, the ports **46**, **48** are lined with a fitting such as a polyvinyl chloride (PVC) fitting (not shown). The size of the ports is not limited, but is preferably about one to two inches in diameter. The ventilation manifold [[44]], present in the battery box, is discussed *infra*.